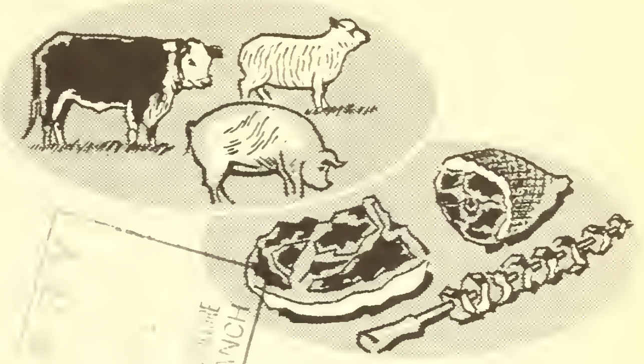
Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

1.94L S8
L75

LIVESTOCK and MEAT SITUATION



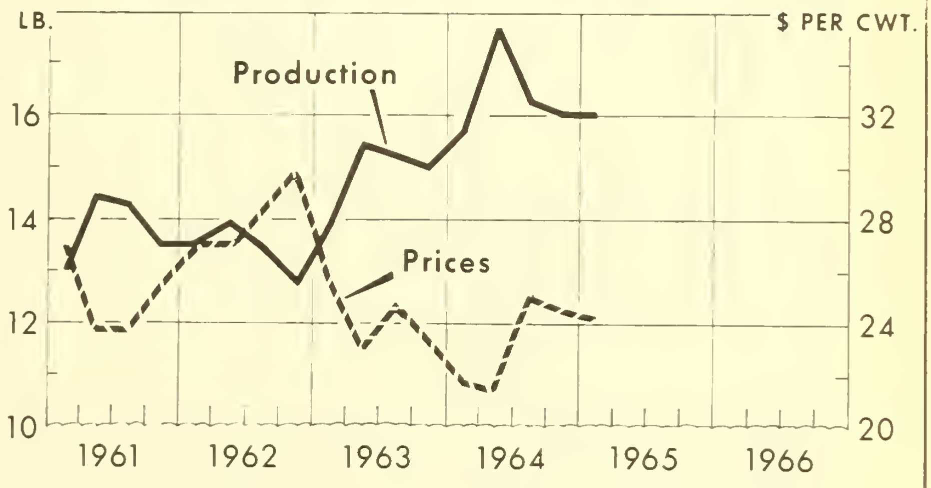
LMS-143 MAY 1965

OCT 1 ...
U. S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE
BELTSVILLE BRANCH

Steer and heifer beef production increased rapidly in 1963 and during the first half of 1964. Production declined somewhat in the second half of 1964, but remained above year-earlier levels. Supplies of steer and heifer beef this past winter continued large, but were only a little above 1964 levels. Production this spring and summer likely will average about the same as a year earlier.

Fed cattle prices dropped sharply in 1963 and in early 1964 in response to the large increases in production, but recovered last summer and averaged between $24-$25 through the first quarter of 1965. In late April, Choice steers at Chicago were averaging around $25.50. Fed cattle prices are expected to average well above year-earlier levels this spring, but about the same as in 1964 this summer.

STEER AND HEIFER BEEF PRODUCTION UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION AND PRICES



PRODUCTION ON A PER CAPITA BASIS. CHOICE STEERS AT CHICAGO.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. ERS 2473-65 (4) ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

FOR 3 P.M. EDT RELEASE, MAY 7

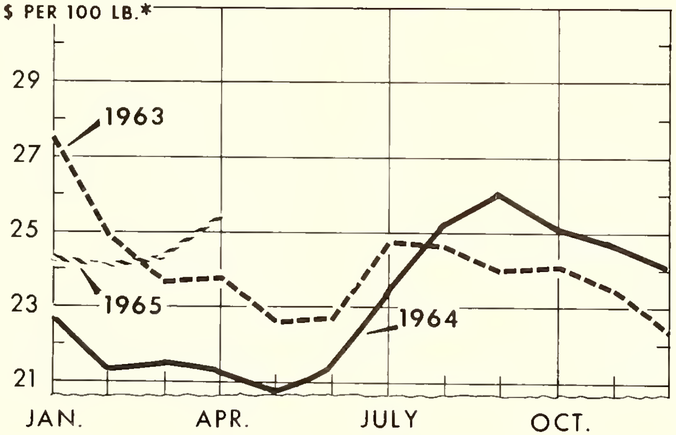
NOTICE: There must be no premature release of this Situation Report, nor should its contents be paraphrased, referred to or alluded to in earlier stories. There is a TOTAL EMBARGO on this Report until 3 p.m. (EDT) MAY 7, which includes any and all uses or references to any material contained herein.

PRESS SERVICE
OFFICE OF INFORMATION
U. S. Dept. of Agriculture

LIBRARY
RECEIVED
MAY 1 1965
U. S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE
BELTSVILLE BRANCH

Published bimonthly by
ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE • U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

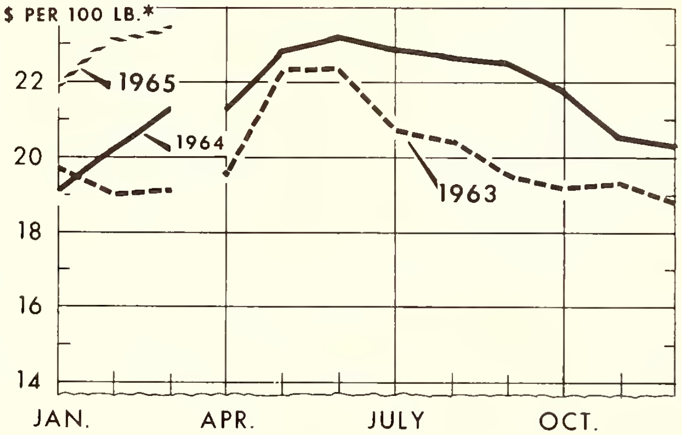
SLAUGHTER STEER PRICES



* CHOICE GRADE, SOLD OUT OF FIRST HANDS AT CHICAGO.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. ERS 1086- 65 (4) ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

SLAUGHTER LAMB PRICES

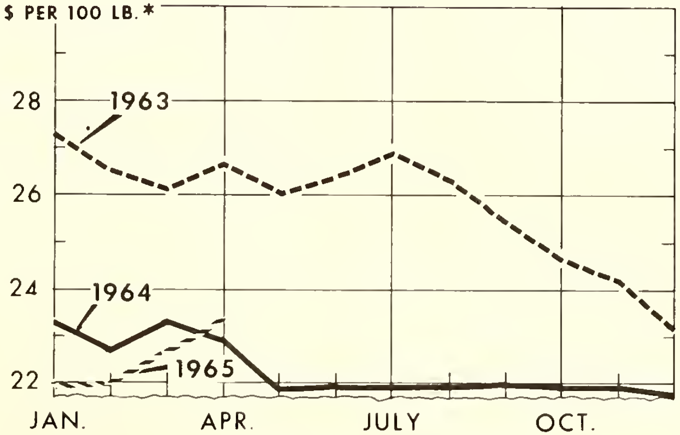


* CHOICE GRADE AT DENVER. SPRING LAMBS-APRIL TO SEPTEMBER, ALL OTHER MONTHS WOOLED.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. ERS 1198- 65 (4) ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

April is a 3-week average.

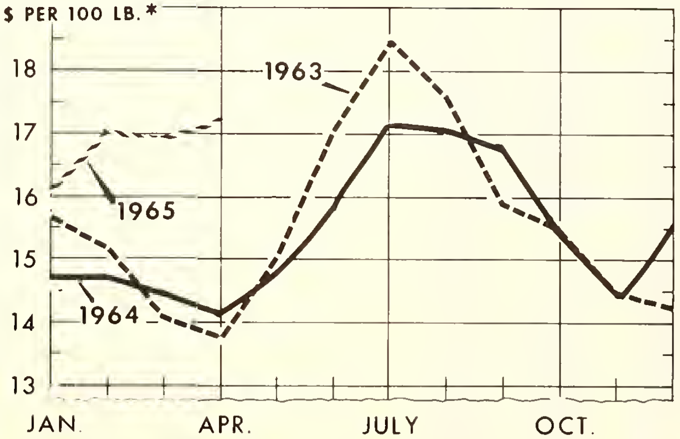
FEEDER STEER PRICES



* CHOICE GRADE, 500-800 LB. AT KANSAS CITY.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. ERS 1088- 65 (4) ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

HOG PRICES



* BARROWS AND GILTS, 8 MARKETS.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. ERS 1089- 65 (4) ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

Approved by the Oultook and Situation Board, April 30, 1965

CONTENTS

	Page
Summary	3
Review and Outlook	
Cattle	5
Hogs	14
Sheep and Lambs	18
USDA Revises Beef Quality Grades, Establishes Optional Beef Cutability Grades	24
Rank of States in Meat Animal Production	25
Foreign Trade in Livestock and Livestock Products	28

SUMMARY

Red meat production this year is relatively high, as it was last year, but the volume is moving at higher prices. Production early in 1964 was substantially above 1963 levels, and cattle and hog prices declined under the pressure of large supplies. This year, however, fed cattle prices held steady through the winter and averaged $2-$3 per 100 pounds above the same months a year earlier. Fed cattle prices in late April were about $4 above prices in the early spring last year.

The number of cattle and calves on feed on April 1 was down 2 percent from a year earlier. More important, the number of heavyweight cattle on feed was considerably below the record number of last year. Producers reported intentions to market 4 percent fewer cattle out of feedlots in the second quarter than in the same months of 1964.

Fed cattle marketings for this spring are expected to continue large but to be a little below 1964 levels. Fed beef production likely will be off more than the number slaughtered because average live weights are expected to continue relatively light. Fed cattle marketings this summer likely will be much the same as a year ago.

Fed cattle prices in the second quarter likely will average $4 per 100 pounds or more above the year-earlier average of $21.12 (Choice steers at Chicago). Prices may decline slightly about midyear, especially if placements continue large this spring, but third quarter fed cattle prices likely will average around year-earlier levels.

Feeder cattle prices fell in the second half of 1964 and remained at reduced levels until mid-March 1965, when they began to show the first increases in more than a year. Strong feedlot demand for replacement cattle and the prospect of normal grazing conditions have improved the price outlook for feeder cattle. No substantial rise is likely this summer, but prices are expected to average above winter levels, especially if fed cattle prices remain firm.

Cow slaughter rose sharply last summer and has stayed at high levels. However, the rate of increase over a year earlier is expected to narrow in the second half of this year when slaughter likely will average around year-earlier levels. Cow prices are averaging only slightly below 1964 prices, even though the volume marketed is up substantially. The reduction in beef imports from a year earlier is helping to maintain cow prices.

Hog production is being cut back sharply this year because hog prices were low in 1964 in relation to the cost of raising a hog to market weight. Pork production is off even more than the number of head slaughtered as slaughter weights are also running below a year earlier.

Hog slaughter is expected to continue well below 1964 levels throughout the year, reflecting the 8 percent decline in the 1964 fall pig crop and an expected similar reduction in the spring crop this year. Early indications of the June-August pig crop point toward a further cutback in farrowings in the second half of this year.

Prices of barrows and gilts at 8 markets averaged $16.70 per 100 pounds during January-March, up more than 14 percent from the same months in 1964. Hog prices are expected to continue well above year-earlier levels through the summer and fall.

Sheep and lamb slaughter during the winter averaged considerably below year-earlier levels, and is expected to stay down this spring and summer. However, the slaughter gap may shrink as the year progresses, since this year's lamb crop likely will be down only 3-4 percent from 1964.

Choice slaughter lambs in mid-April were running $2.50 and more above prices at this time last year. Lamb prices probably will continue above year-earlier levels throughout 1965.

REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

Commercial red meat production during the first quarter totaled 7.8 billion pounds, the same as a year earlier. Although pork production was down 7 percent and lamb and mutton production was down 12 percent, beef and veal production increased about 6 percent.

CATTLE

Cattle Slaughter and Beef Production Gain

Commercial cattle slaughter in the first quarter was up about 11 percent from a year earlier. Beef production, however, was up only 6 percent. Cows accounted for a larger proportion of total slaughter than a year earlier and fed cattle marketing weights were lighter. Although the number of cattle marketed out of feedlots in January-March was up 5 percent from a year earlier, steer and heifer beef production was up only 3 percent.

Slaughter of all classes of cattle in the first quarter increased over a year earlier. Cows made the largest gain--up 30 percent. Steer slaughter under Federal inspection was up about 7 percent, while heifer slaughter was up about 12 percent.

Calf slaughter, which was up about 6 percent last year from the year before--reversing a 3-year downtrend--also increased during the first quarter. Slaughter was up 8 percent, while production was up 9 percent.

Spring Fed Beef Production Down; Prices Up

Fed cattle slaughter in the second quarter probably will total somewhat below the high of a year-earlier and the first quarter level. By midyear, however, marketings may again be close to year-earlier levels.

The April 1 inventory of cattle and calves on feed in 32 States totaled 8.4 million head--down 2 percent from April 1, 1964. Producers stated intentions to market 4 percent fewer cattle out of feedlots during the second quarter than a year earlier. Also, the number of heavy animals on feed April 1 was down substantially. Steers weighing over 1,100 pounds and heifers weighing over 900 pounds totaled 561,000--down 33 percent from year-earlier levels and 12 percent below those on hand January 1, 1965. Steers weighing 900-1,100 pounds, and heifers weighing 700-900 pounds totaled 2.2 million head, down more than 6 percent from a year earlier. With these reductions in the heavier weights, marketings later this spring will include a large number of animals now on feed in the lighter weight groups, which were up more than 5 percent from year-earlier levels.

Corn Belt feeders stated intentions April 1 to market 7 percent fewer cattle during the second quarter than a year earlier, while feeders in the Western States expected to market 2 percent less. However, planned marketings in the Corn Belt in the second quarter would be about the same as in the first quarter. Intended marketings in the Western States are expected to be down 11 percent from the first quarter with most of the decrease occurring in California.

Fed beef production in the Corn Belt likely will be down from the first quarter, even though marketings will be about the same. This is because a larger part of the marketings will have to come from the lighter weight groups.

Table 1.--Steer and heifer beef production under Federal inspection, United States, by month, 1963-65

Month	Steer beef production			Heifer beef production		
	1963	1964	1965	1963	1964	1965
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
January	678	774	788	214	249	246
February	591	701	704	196	210	221
March	662	768	804	222	234	269
April	710	840		214	242	
May	782	888		227	211	
June	732	910		199	235	
July	730	858		221	220	
August	737	766		230	229	
September	689	757		228	259	
October	748	782		279	280	
November	632	696		233	238	
December	660	786		242	256	

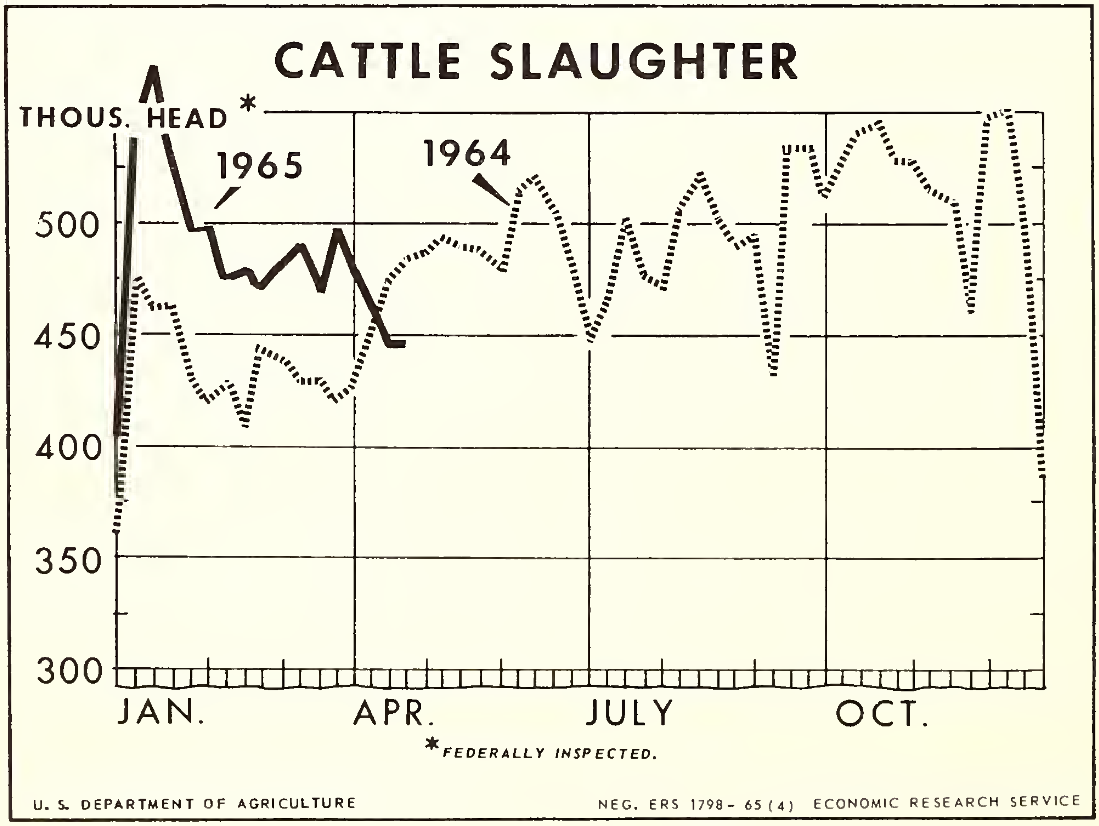


Table 2.--Number of cattle and calves on feed April 1, by regions, and percent change from previous year, 1959 to date

Year	North Central States: East North Central	North Central States: West North Central	North Central States: Total	Texas and Oklahoma	Western States	Total 1/
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
1959	1,235	3,361	4,596	199	1,075	5,939
1960	1,249	3,582	4,831	210	1,554	6,407
Percent change from 1959	+1.1	+6.6	+5.1	+5.5	+44.6	
1961	1,303	3,739	5,042	283	1,697	7,100
Percent change from 1960	+4.3	+4.4	+4.4	+34.8	+9.2	
1962	1,252	3,736	4,988	340	1,830	7,321
Percent change from 1961	-3.9	-.1	-1.1	+20.1	+7.8	
1963	1,329	4,063	5,392	442	2,179	8,150
Percent change from 1962	+6.2	+8.8	+8.1	+30.0	+19.1	
1964	1,292	4,390	5,682	442	2,197	8,612
Percent change from 1963	-2.8	+8.0	+5.4	0	+.8	
1965	1,275	4,281	5,556	466	2,133	8,450
Percent change from 1964	-1.3	-2.5	-2.2	+5.4	-2.9	

1/ 26 State total until 1961, then 28 States until 1964 then 32 States.

A factor which may affect the rate of marketings after June 1 is the revised USDA grade standards. (See page 24.) Under the revised standards, some fed cattle will be able to reach a given grade with slightly less feeding than previously. Consequently, marketings, especially from commercial feedlots, could be pushed ahead slightly after June 1 and may exceed producers' April 1 intentions. This revision in grading standards may also tend to hold down average live weights in the future.

Production of fed beef in the second quarter likely will be down about 4-5 percent from a year earlier. But continued heavy slaughter of cows and other nonfed animals likely will hold total beef production about the same as a year earlier.

Choice steers, Chicago, averaged $25.57 per 100 pounds during the first 3 weeks in April, $4.00 above year-earlier levels and $1.20 above month-earlier levels. Markets for fed cattle, especially those grading high Choice and above, likely will remain firm through May and June as a result of smaller supplies of heavier weight cattle; for the whole quarter, prices likely will average around current levels. Although animals grading Good or below have shown some price strength in recent weeks, most of the advance has been in the higher grades.

Grade Premiums Increase

In the first quarter, price spreads between Prime and Choice steers and between Choice and Good steers widened each month and averaged $1.50 and $1.70 per 100 pounds during the quarter. Last year, when marketings included large numbers of highly finished cattle, the margin between Prime and Choice and between Good and Choice averaged 70 and 87 cents during the first quarter. Expected smaller fed beef production during the second quarter indicates that the price premiums paid for heavier cattle within a grade and those paid between grades will continue larger than average. During the first 3 weeks in April, the margin between Prime and Choice averaged $2.50 while the margin between Choice and Good averaged $1.95.

Current premiums for highly finished cattle may encourage feeders to delay marketings in anticipation of increased returns. If marketings are delayed to any extent, the overall price level as well as the premiums between grades likely will increase temporarily. However, with a relatively small market for highly finished beef, increased production later on--resulting from delayed marketings--would put substantial pressure on prices, especially for high Choice and Prime.

Feedlot Placements Continue Large

Feedlot operators have continued placing large numbers of cattle on feed in response to favorable feeding margins. In the first quarter, placements totaled 3.5 million head--only 1 percent below the record placements in January-March 1964. But placements this year consisted largely of lighter weight animals. On April 1, the number of cattle on feed weighing less than 700 pounds was up 10 percent, while those weighing over 700 pounds were down 10 percent from a year ago.

Even though slaughter and placements continued heavy during the first quarter, a large number of cattle are available for feeding during the rest of the year. On January 1, the supply of cattle and calves available for feedlot placement during 1965 totaled about 36.4 million head, slightly larger than a year earlier. Although steer and heifer slaughter was up 8 percent and calf slaughter up 8 percent during the first quarter, the combined number of these classes available for feedlot placement after April 1 was less than 1 percent smaller than a year earlier.

A slightly smaller available supply of feeder cattle does not necessarily point toward a reduction in the number of cattle placed on feed through the

Table 3.--Steer prices at Chicago by weight group
and differences between grades, by months, 1964-65

Month	Prime						Difference in prices between Prime and Choice (all weights)	
	1964			1965				
	900-1100 lbs.	1100-1300 lbs.	Margin 1/	900-1100 lbs.	1100-1300 lbs.	Margin 1/	1964	1965
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Jan.	23.39	23.25	-.14	24.94	25.40	+.46	.67	1.31
Feb.	22.60	22.11	-.49	24.90	25.34	+.44	.64	1.36
Mar.	22.74	22.62	-.12	25.29	26.07	+.78	.81	1.84
Apr.	22.31	22.47	+.16				.88	
May	21.46	21.72	+.26				1.18	
June	22.09	22.93	+.84				1.49	
July	23.91	24.49	+.58				1.15	
Aug.	25.64	26.36	+.72				1.07	
Sept.	26.47	27.29	+.82				1.32	
Oct.	25.37	26.09	+.72				1.22	
Nov.	25.14	25.76	+.62				1.09	
Dec.	24.58	25.07	+.49				1.17	

Month	Choice						Difference in prices between Choice and Good (all weights)	
	1964			1965				
	900-1100 lbs.	1100-1300 lbs.	Margin 1/	900-1100 lbs.	1100-1300 lbs.	Margin 1/	1964	1965
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Jan.	22.87	22.50	-.37	23.93	24.34	+.41	1.09	1.67
Feb.	22.10	21.26	-.84	23.88	24.14	+.26	.75	1.65
Mar.	22.17	21.74	-.43	24.30	24.80	+.50	.76	1.80
Apr.	21.67	21.51	-.16				.75	
May	20.67	20.70	+.03				1.04	
June	21.39	21.68	+.29				1.32	
July	23.05	23.46	+.41				1.56	
Aug.	24.76	25.31	+.55				1.86	
Sept.	25.45	26.22	+.77				1.67	
Oct.	24.48	24.94	+.46				1.44	
Nov.	24.23	24.56	+.33				1.32	
Dec.	23.59	24.02	+.43				1.46	

1/ Amount 1100-1300 lbs. is above 900-1100 lbs.

Table 4.--Number of cattle and calves slaughtered under Federal inspection, by class, United States, by months, 1964 to date

Month	Steers		Heifers		Cows		Calves	
	1964	1965	1964	1965	1964	1965	1964	1965
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
January	1,147	1,198	427	442	421	500	412	404
February	1,023	1,080	364	401	308	415	342	384
March	1,128	1,247	409	496	323	454	400	473
April	1,241		428		354		379	
May	1,327		379		341		321	
June	1,373		424		386		338	
July	1,306		406		426		385	
August	1,198		425		474		384	
September	1,179		475		517		453	
October	1,205		507		616		514	
November	1,068		427		589		443	
December	1,199		458		568		449	
Total 1/	14,395		5,128		5,322		4,820	

1/ Computed from unrounded totals.

Compiled from Market News, Livestock Division, C&MS.

rest of 1965. Last year nonfed steer and heifer slaughter accounted for about 30 percent of the 24.6 million steers and heifers slaughtered. Marketings out of feedlots totaled 17.3 million head. Thus, large placements in 1965 can be maintained if a greater proportion of steers and heifers are moved through feedlots before slaughter.

The level of placements this spring will largely determine the volume of feedlot marketings this summer and fall. Factors which will influence the level of placements during the coming months are weather and feeder expectations. However, the availability of heavy-weight feeder cattle in Canada and Mexico could have some effect on placement levels.

Average to good range condition this spring would enable cow-calf operators to hold more 1964-crop calves on grass through the summer. In this event, these animals would not be placed on feed until next fall or winter. But general dryness would force the movement of cattle from ranges, and many would move into feedlots. Dry weather likely would result in placements well above year-earlier levels in the summer and fall.

Imports of feeder cattle from Mexico and Canada totaled about 515,000 head last year, down over 300,000 from 1963. In January and February this year, live feeder imports from Canada and Mexico totaled about 80,000 head, down more than

Table 5 .--Selected prices per 100 pounds of cattle, by months, 1964-65

Month	Chicago				Kansas City			
	Choice steers		Utility cows		Good feeder steers 500-800 lb.		Choice feeder steer calves	
	1964	1965	1964	1965	1964	1965	1964	1965
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
January	22.61	24.28	13.19	12.80	21.32	19.56	26.01	22.85
February	21.34	24.02	13.51	13.37	20.76	19.41	26.16	23.16
March	21.56	24.31	14.58	13.89	20.92	20.05	26.64	23.92
April	21.28	1/25.57	14.84	1/14.28	19.82	1/21.00	25.29	1/24.98
May	20.52		14.53		19.41		24.17	
June	21.57		14.39		19.87		24.02	
July	23.44		13.68		19.08		23.42	
August	25.28		13.85		18.66		22.90	
September	26.07		14.30		19.38		23.12	
October	25.07		12.94		18.83		22.63	
November	24.64		12.53		19.42		22.82	
December	24.01		12.50		19.06		22.45	
Average	23.12		13.74		19.71		24.14	

1/ April is 3-week average.

Compiled from Market News, Livestock Division, C&MS.

20,000 from year-earlier levels. However, there are large feeder cattle supplies in those countries because their exports were curtailed last year. With the recent improvement in U. S. feeder prices and the expectation of continued favorable feeding margins, feeder cattle imports may be substantially above 1964 levels later this year.

Fed Beef Supplies Probably About the Same as a Year Earlier After mid-1965

Marketings out of feedlots during the third quarter, although probably larger than in the second quarter, probably will not differ much from year-earlier levels. Since marketing weights probably will be about the same as last year, fed beef production likely will approximate year-earlier levels.

Numbers of steers on feed April 1 weighing 500-900 pounds and heifers weighing less than 700 pounds were up about 6 percent. However, marketings out of these weight groups planned during the second quarter probably will reduce remaining numbers of these animals on July 1 to year-earlier levels, unless second quarter placements are very large.

Last year, second quarter placements totaled 2.7 million head (28 States). With 4 percent fewer marketings in the second quarter, placements equal to year-earlier levels would result in about the same number of cattle on feed as a year earlier on July 1. Even if placements exceed year-earlier levels, it is unlikely that enough heavy feeder cattle will be placed on feed in the second quarter to materially add to marketings in the third quarter.

Fed cattle prices during the third quarter likely will average around the year-earlier level of $24.93 per hundred pounds (Choice steers, Chicago). However, unlike last year when the monthly average price advanced from $23.44 in July to over $26.00 in September, fed cattle prices this summer will probably be relatively stable.

Continued smaller supplies of pork and lamb will tend to exert upward pressure on fed cattle prices. However, in the absence of a USDA beef purchase program this year, production of fed beef equal to last year would mean an increase of around 3 percent in fed beef available in commercial trade channels. This is approximately the rate of increase that because of the gains in population, incomes, and a growing preference for beef can be absorbed each year without price-depressing effects. In addition, an expected increase in broiler production of 4-6 percent during the summer of 1965 will partially offset reduced red meat production.

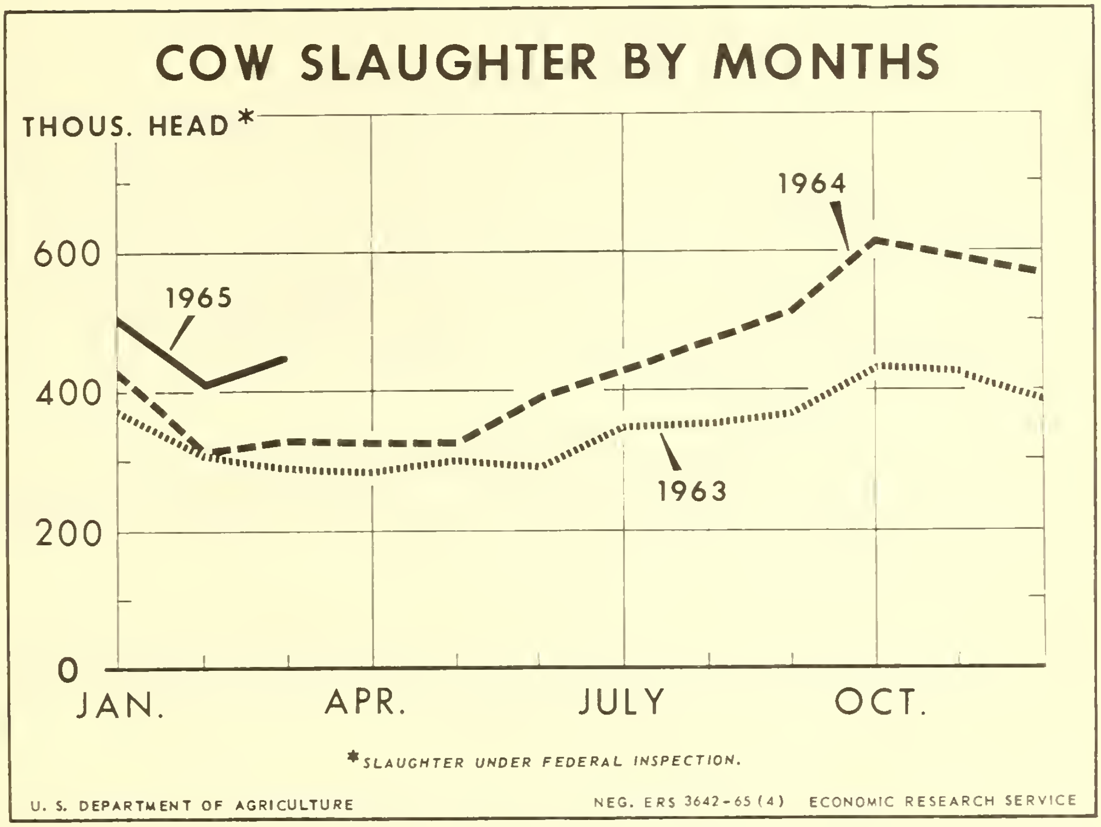
Feeder Cattle Prices

Feeder cattle prices continued stable at the low levels of last year during January and February, but increased substantially in late March and April. Choice 500-800 pound feeder steers at Kansas City averaged about $23.15 per 100 pounds in April, $1.13 above the first quarter average and the highest monthly price since March of last year. This recent gain resulted primarily from the improvement in fed cattle prices, strong demand, and seasonally smaller supplies.

Feeder cattle prices likely will stay above year-earlier levels through the rest of the second quarter and into the summer. With anticipated firm fed cattle prices and favorable feeding margins, cattle feeders will continue to place large numbers on feed. In addition, fair to average grazing conditions this spring would enable ranchers to hold more feeder cattle on the ranges; this would restrict available supplies for feedlot replacement to some extent and give an additional boost to prices. Further improvement in feeder cattle prices would tend to curtail the slaughter of nonfed animals as feedlot operators compete more strongly with packers for these cattle.

Cow Slaughter Up Sharply

The large increase in cow slaughter that occurred during the second half of last year has continued through January-March of this year. Cow slaughter in federally inspected plants totaled 1,369 million head during January-March--an increase of 30 percent over year-earlier levels and 42 percent above 1963.



Last year, cow prices declined from a high of $14.58 per 100 pounds in April (Utility cows, Chicago) to a low of $12.50 in December as a result of the substantial increase in the slaughter of cows and other nonfed animals. Prices showed some improvement in the first quarter this year and averaged $13.35--up 70 cents from the fourth quarter of 1964, but 40 cents below a year earlier. The modest seasonal rise this past winter, in spite of continued heavy slaughter, resulted from substantial reductions in imports and lighter marketing weights of cows and other nonfed animals.

Last year, the number of cows 2 years old and older on farms increased by about 600,000 head. In view of the increases that have occurred in cow and heifer slaughter so far this year, little change in the inventory of cows is likely this year. Cow slaughter likely will continue above 1964 levels during the second quarter. Cow prices probably will increase seasonally throughout spring and early summer and average near year-earlier levels, even though slaughter may be up appreciably.

Cow marketings after July will depend largely on grazing conditions this summer and fall and feeder cattle prices. Average grazing conditions and continued relative strength in feeder prices would probably hold cow slaughter around year-earlier levels during the third and fourth quarters.

HOGS

January-March Pork Production Down

Pork production was down last winter and hog prices were up. Smaller slaughter supplies in late 1964 and early this year resulted from a cutback in the number of sows farrowed during June-November 1964. During most of last year, hog prices were generally low in relation to the cost of raising a hog to market weight. The hog-corn price ratio averaged 13.2 in 1964, lower than in any year since 1956. This developed when corn prices rose to an average of $1.12 per bushel, the highest since 1957, and the average price received by farmers for hogs sank to $14.87, the lowest since 1959 partly because of record supplies of beef. Producers responded by decreasing the size of their hog operations.

In 1964, heavier slaughter weights added to pork production until late in the year. Average live weights increased 3 pounds in 1964 to 241 pounds per head. The total amount of pork produced from hogs slaughtered in commercially operated plants rose 1 percent above 1963, even though the number of hogs slaughtered dropped 1 percent during the year.

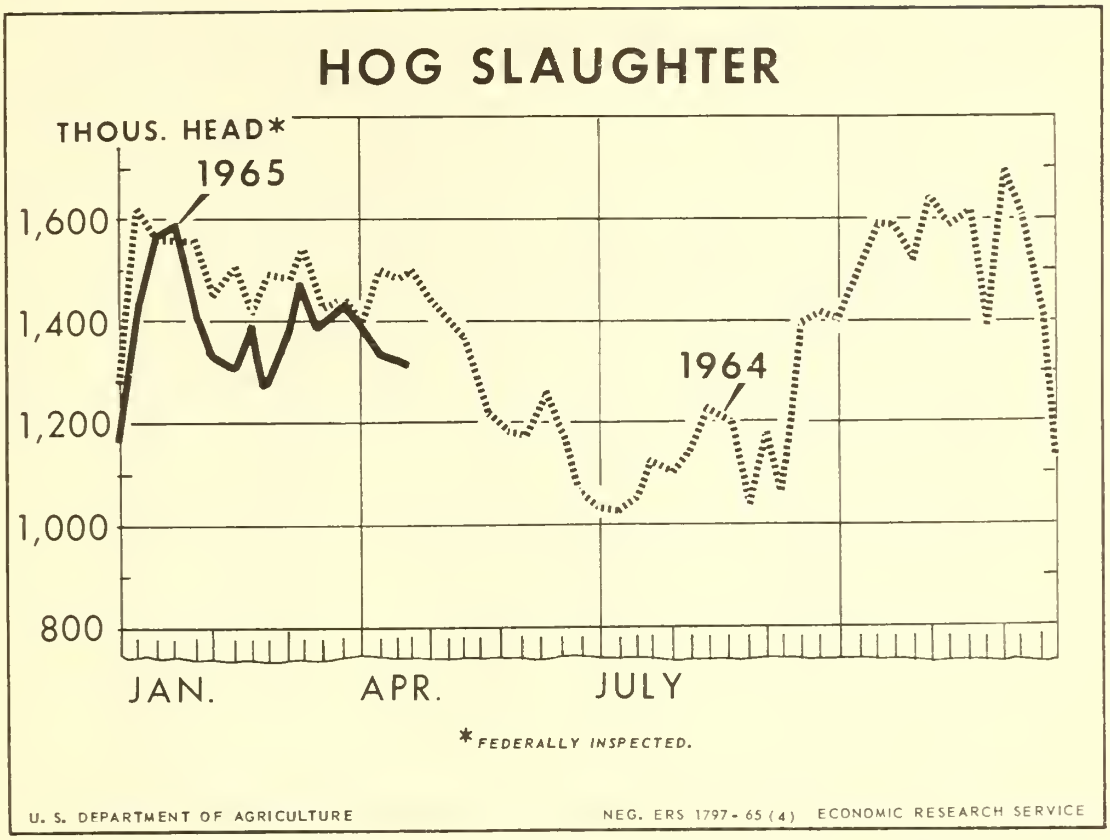
The hog price outlook is brighter this year. Commercial hog slaughter and pork production during January-March were down 7 percent from the same months a year earlier. This together with less price competition from beef gave added strength to first quarter hog prices.

Barrows and gilts at 8 major markets averaged $16.70 per 100 pounds during the first 3 months of 1965, 14 percent higher than in the same months a year earlier. Prices in April held above $17 and are currently more than $3 above prices in April 1964. In 1963 and 1964, hog prices weakened during the winter months, sliding to early-spring lows in April.

Net returns to producers have not gone up proportionately with the increase in hog prices. Higher feed grain prices have increased the cost of raising a hog to market weight. However, the increase in costs has not entirely offset the increase in hog prices, and the hog-corn price ratio is up a little from last spring.

Pig Crops Continue Smaller in 1965

Most barrows and gilts going to slaughter this year will have been farrowed during the second half of 1964 or the first half of this year. The estimated number of sows farrowing in all States during June-November 1964 was down 8 percent from a year earlier. The 1964 fall pig crop was down a similar percentage, because the number of pigs saved per litter averaged almost the same as in these months a year earlier. The number of sows farrowing in 10 major Corn Belt States during December 1964-May 1965 likely will be down 8 percent also. Thus, the supply of slaughter hogs in 1965 is expected to continue significantly below a year earlier.



Evidently hog production was reduced this spring because hog producers were not encouraged much by higher hog prices this past winter. If producers had viewed the situation more favorably, they would have withheld sows from slaughter and the percentage of sows in total hog slaughter would have declined. This did not happen. The number of sows slaughtered under Federal inspection declined 8 percent in the first quarter from January-March 1964, but sow slaughter still accounted for 6 percent of all hogs slaughtered. This percentage was the same as a year earlier when hog prices were much lower. Also, the percentage of sows in total receipts at 8 markets in April averaged about the same as a year earlier.

Higher corn prices dampened the increase in the hog-corn price ratio last winter. Also, there is not as much free corn in the hands of producers this year. If producers had increased the number of sows to farrow last winter or this spring, they probably would have had to buy extra corn this summer. They have traditionally been slow to begin hog feeding programs that require buying much extra corn unless hog prices are very high in relation to corn prices.

Nevertheless, an expansion in hog production probably will get underway later in 1965. The hog-corn price relationship likely will encourage more producers to enlarge their production later this year, especially after new-crop corn becomes available next fall. If farmers carry out their March 1 intentions on corn acreage and yields are average with an allowance for trend, the 1965 crop would be larger than last year's crop. The 1965 national loan rate set at $1.05 per bushel is 5 cents lower than in 1964.

Table 6.--Hog prices, corn prices, and hog-corn price ratio, by months, 1963 to date

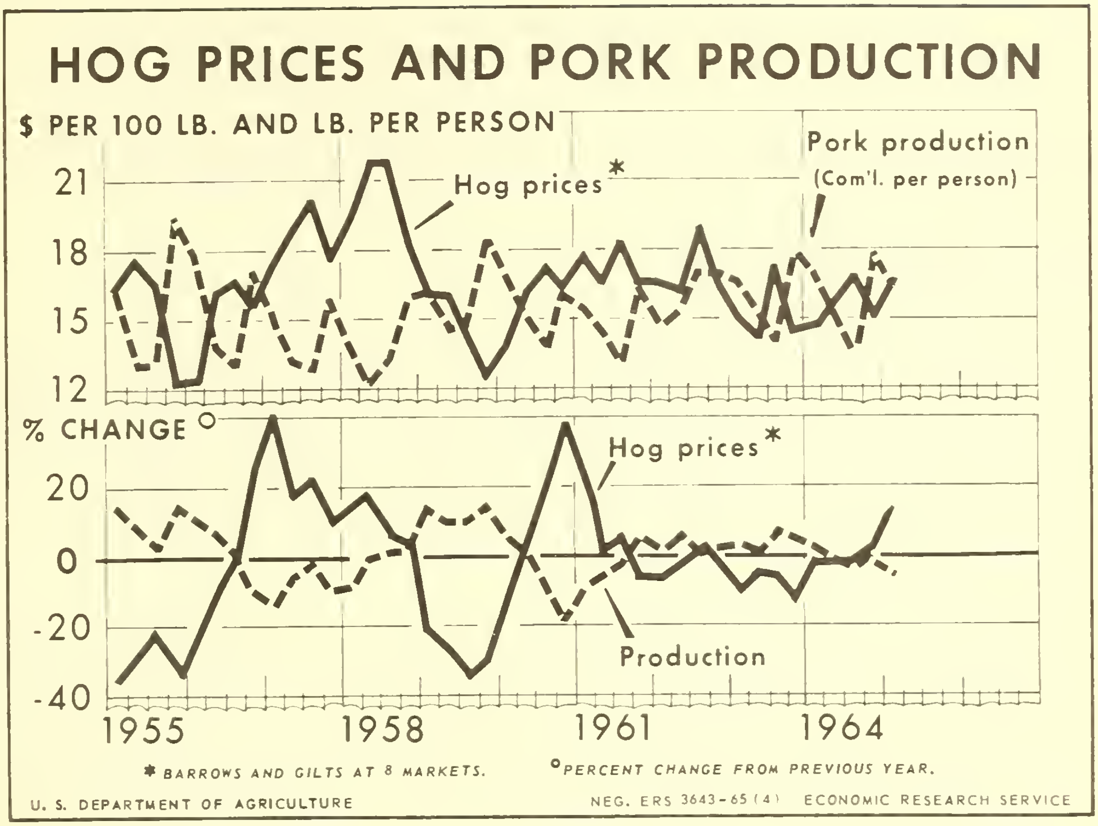
Year and month	Hog price 1/			Corn price 1/			Hog-corn price ratio 2/		
	1963	1964	1965	1963	1964	1965	1963	1964	1965
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.			
Jan.	15.40	14.40	15.40	1.03	1.09	1.15	15.0	13.2	13.4
Feb.	14.80	14.30	16.40	1.06	1.08	1.17	14.0	13.2	14.0
Mar.	13.80	14.10	16.30	1.06	1.11	1.18	13.0	12.7	13.8
Apr.	13.50	14.00	16.60	1.08	1.14	1.21	12.5	12.3	13.7
May	14.40	14.30		1.10	1.16		13.1	12.3	
June	16.10	14.90		1.16	1.16		13.9	12.8	
July	17.10	15.90		1.19	1.12		14.4	14.2	
Aug.	16.70	15.60		1.19	1.12		14.0	13.9	
Sept.	15.50	16.20		1.21	1.17		12.8	13.8	
Oct.	15.20	15.10		1.08	1.10		14.1	13.7	
Nov.	14.20	13.90		1.02	1.04		13.9	13.4	
Dec.	13.60	14.70		1.07	1.14		12.7	12.9	
Year	14.90	14.80		1.10	1.12		13.6	13.2	

1/ Average price received by farmers, hogs, dollars per 100 pounds for corn dollars per bushel.
2/ Bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of hog, live weight.

Any change in producers' attitudes likely will be reflected in receipts at the 8-markets because gilts will be held back from slaughter for addition to the breeding herd and the number of sows going to slaughter will diminish sharply. Also, during the early stages of a production expansion, the number of hogs slaughtered falls off more than the reduction indicated from estimates of the size of the pig crop. Thus, hog slaughter late in 1965 may be substantially reduced from year-earlier levels.

Summer and Fall Prices to Stay Well Above Year Earlier

Hog prices rose rapidly last spring, but then tapered off a little in the summer before beginning a fast decline last fall. Prices this summer are expected to average well above July-September 1964 when barrows and gilts at 8 markets averaged $16.97 per hundred pounds.



HOG PRICES AND PORK PRODUCTION

* BARROWS AND GILTS AT 8 MARKETS. °PERCENT CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. ERS 3643-65 (4) ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

Hog slaughter likely will be off more sharply from a year earlier after the spring months. The number of sows farrowing in 10 Corn Belt States in November and December last year was down only 3 percent, while farrowings in January through May are likely to be off over 8 percent from a year earlier.

Average live weights are expected to remain a little below 1964 levels this summer because of the smaller supply of free corn and higher corn prices. Lighter weights will further reduce the amount of pork available for consumption.

Cold storage stocks of pork were 19 percent below year-earlier levels on April 1, but 9 percent above the 1959-63 average. Less pork in cold storage at the beginning of the summer than a year earlier will tend to accentuate the usual seasonal price strength.

Sow prices at 8 markets dipped to a low of $11.85 in November last year, but are now averaging a little over $15. This was a sharper winter recovery than in other recent years. Sow prices likely will stay well above year-earlier levels during the seasonally large slaughter months this summer, especially if breeding herds are enlarged this year.

Producers in the 10 Corn Belt States reported intentions on March 1 to have 8 percent fewer sows farrow during June-August this year than in 1964. This would be 15 percent below the same months of 1963. If these intentions are carried out, hog slaughter will remain well below year-earlier levels into 1966. There are only a few weeks left in which these plans can be altered, since the gestation period of a hog is about 4 months. Thus, producers are apparently carrying out their earlier plans since no expansion is evident.

Hog prices next fall and early winter likely will remain well above year-earlier levels. Subsequent prices will depend upon the number of pigs born in the second half of this year and the first half of 1966.

Long-Term Price and Production Patterns to Resume

Hog production in the past has usually been characterized by wide swings in slaughter and prices. Such swings have been fairly regular, repeating a pattern of 2 years of large slaughter followed by 2 years of reduced slaughter. Since 1961, however, producers have made production adjustments more promptly in response to changing market conditions, and the usual wide swings in production have been interrupted. As a result, percentage changes in production from a year earlier have been relatively small and prices have fluctuated less than in earlier years.

However, a sizable reduction in the pig crop is being made this year, even though the sharpest cutback since 1960 took place in 1964 when the fall pig crop was reduced 8 percent. The annual pig crop this year likely will be down 7-8 percent from a year earlier and 13-15 percent below 1963. Thus, the relative stability in hog slaughter and prices since 1961 is being broken this year. Per capita pork production in 1965 is likely to average 7 percent or more below 1964; hog prices probably will make an even larger upward swing. These substantially higher prices are likely to result in a large expansion in hog production beginning later this year or early next year.

SHEEP AND LAMBS

Prices Received for Lambs Up Sharply in 1965

Lamb prices in early 1965 were higher than in several years. Prices received by farmers averaged $21.40 per hundred pounds during January-March, $2.70 above year-earlier levels. Because of reduced slaughter supplies of lamb and strong demand for red meats, lamb prices are expected to continue above year-earlier levels through 1965.

In mid-April, Choice feeder lambs at some major markets were running more than $3 per 100 pounds above a year earlier. Choice shorn slaughter lamb prices were up $2.00 and Choice spring slaughter lamb prices were up $1-$3. Sheep prices, however, are not much different from a year ago. The average price received by farmers for sheep during the first quarter was $6.10, down 5 cents from 1964.

Slaughter Supplies Down; Numbers to Decline Also

Commercial slaughter of sheep and lambs in January-March was 14 percent below a year earlier. If slaughter should continue down to the same

Table 7.--Selected prices per 100 pounds of livestock, by months, 1964-65

Month	Barrows and gilts at 8 markets 1/		Sows at 8 markets 1/		Choice lambs at Denver		Choice feeder lambs at Denver	
	1964	1965	1964	1965	1964	1965	1964	1965
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
January	14.70	16.06	12.02	13.10	19.12	21.98	17.71	20.88
February	14.70	17.01	12.51	14.62	20.17	23.08	18.93	21.78
March	14.48	16.98	12.63	15.01	21.39	23.53	20.56	22.12
April	14.16	2/17.48	12.29	2/15.16	22.65	3/	20.87	3/
May	14.84		12.49		22.84		21.28	
June	15.83		12.85		23.20		20.77	
July	17.11		13.44		22.82		20.18	
August	17.05		13.78		22.77		19.57	
September	16.76		14.28		22.53		20.43	
October	15.39		13.05		21.76		20.80	
November	14.43		11.85		20.56		20.08	
December	15.55		12.34		20.23		19.79	
Average	15.31		12.84		21.56		20.08	

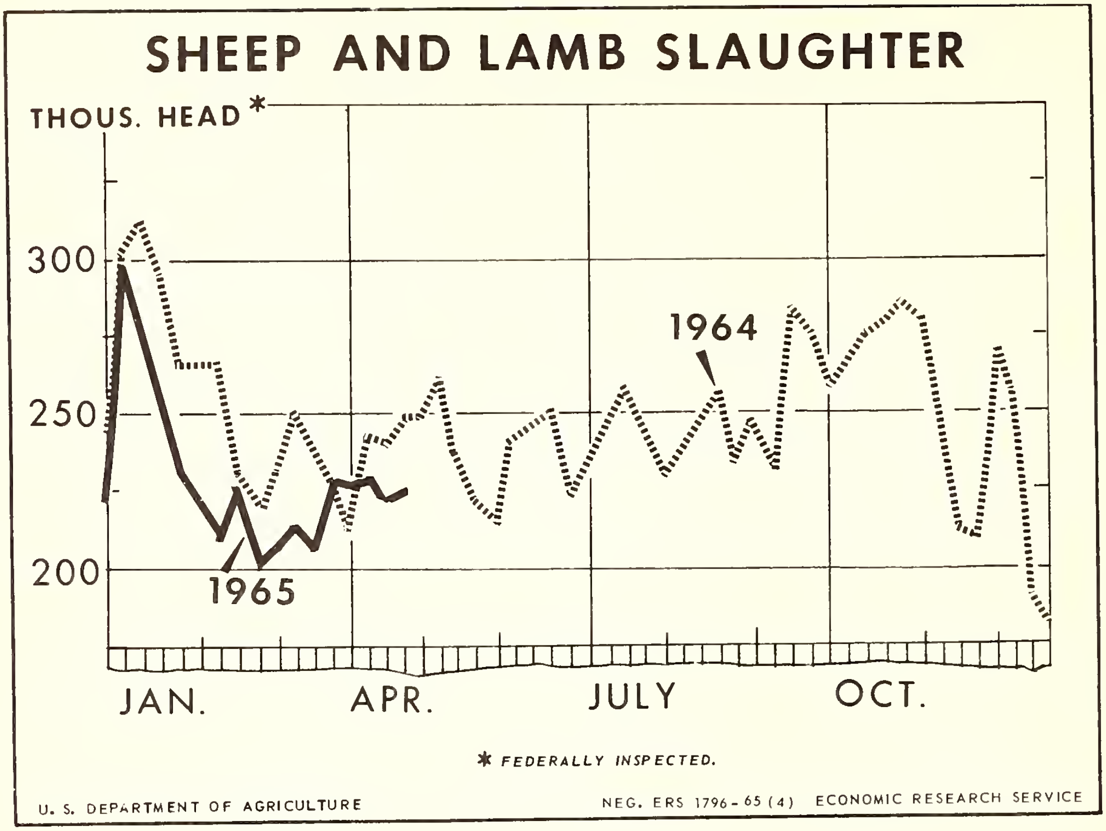
1/ Average for all weights at Midwest markets.
2/ April is 3-week average.
3/ No weekly prices quoted at Denver.

Compiled from Market News, Livestock Division, C&MS.

extent in the last 9 months of the year, the January 1, 1966, inventory of sheep and lambs on farms and ranches likely would be about the same as the 1965 beginning inventory.

This assumes that death losses will be nearly the same as in 1964 and that the relationship between the size of the lamb crop and the number of ewes 1 year old and older on January 1 also will be similar. The early lamb crop this year was down only 2 percent from 1964, although the number of ewes in the early lamb States was down 4 percent. The smaller decline in the size of the early lamb crop was due to unusually early lambing in some States and to more favorable weather conditions. The total lamb crop for the year, however, will likely be down more nearly in line with the 4 percent decline in number of ewes 1 year and older in the January 1 inventory.

However, it is not likely that slaughter during the rest of the year will be down as much as first quarter slaughter. The volume of slaughter early in the year depends to a considerable extent on the number of sheep and lambs on feed. The number on feed was 9 percent below a year earlier on January 1 and 16 percent below on March 1. Slaughter later in the year depends more on the size of the lamb crop. The lamb crop probably will be down only 3-4 percent from 1964.



With the early lamb crop only slightly smaller than in 1964, and the total crop down only 3-4 percent, sheep and lamb slaughter in the second quarter and later in the year can be expected to be down considerably less than in the first quarter. Thus, sheep and lamb slaughter this year probably will be down around 8 to 10 percent.

Such a decline in slaughter would again reduce January 1 inventory of sheep and lambs, but by a smaller amount than in recent years. A larger reduction in slaughter would indicate that producers were more optimistic about the long-term prospects for the industry than they have been for several years and were adding unusually large numbers of ewes to breeding herds. There is no clear evidence that producers are increasing or planning to increase their breeding flocks.

Lamb Feeding Profits

Profits last winter from lamb feeding operations apparently were higher than a year earlier and considerably more than in the winters of 1959 through 1962. The results of a typical Corn Belt winter lamb feeding program are shown in table 8.

The increase in lamb feeding profits last winter was due entirely to higher slaughter lamb prices. Costs of feeder lambs, corn, and alfalfa hay all were higher last winter than in any winter beginning with 1959, but increases in these costs were more than offset by sharper increases in slaughter lamb prices.

Table 8.--Average price and value of important items affecting returns from lamb feeding, 1959-64

Item	Feeding year beginning December					
	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Prices						
Choice slaughter lambs, Chicago, December-March, per 100 pounds	20.28	17.40	17.42	19.02	20.73	24.19
Good and Choice feeder lambs, Denver, September-December, per 100 pounds	1/18.45	1/16.50	1/15.33	1/17.35	1/16.78	1/19.54
Corn, North Central States October-March, per bushel	.952	.917	.930	.983	1.05	1.11
Alfalfa hay, received by farmers, North Central States, October-March, per ton	19.20	18.27	19.80	19.05	21.68	23.05
Receipts, per head						
Sales of Choice lambs, 100 pounds	20.28	17.40	17.42	19.02	20.73	24.19
Wool payment rate on unshorn lambs	.75	.80	.76	.57	.54	.35
Total	21.03	18.20	18.18	19.59	21.27	24.54
Cost, per head						
Feeder lamb, 75 pounds	13.84	12.38	11.50	13.01	12.58	14.66
Corn, 2½ bushels	2.38	2.29	2.32	2.46	2.62	2.78
Alfalfa hay, 150 pounds	1.44	1.37	1.48	1.43	1.63	1.73
Total for items shown 2/	17.66	16.04	15.30	16.90	16.83	19.17
Margin, value over costs shown 2/	3.37	2.16	2.88	2.69	4.44	5.37

1/ The simple average of Good and Choice price for 1962, 1963, and 1964. Other years quoted as Good and Choice combined.

2/ Does not include purchasing or marketing expenses, labor cost, death losses, overhead costs, or costs of other feed ingredients, or credits for manure. The prices shown are averages for the lamb feeding season for the North Central region, and do not necessarily coincide with the experience of individual feeders.

The table shows the average cost of a 75-pound feeder lamb at Denver in September-December was $14.66, the cost of 2½ bushels of corn $2.78, and 150 pounds of alfalfa hay $1.73. The average selling price of a 100-pound Choice slaughter lamb at Chicago during December-March was $24.19. This left a margin of $5.37 per lamb over the costs shown. This margin in 1963 was $4.44; in 1962 it was $2.69.

The table does not include all costs of carrying on a lamb feeding operation. The margins shown therefore do not represent net profits but are an indication of the changes in returns from lamb feeding operations from one year to another. The standard program presented is typical of the Corn Belt but does not necessarily coincide with the experience of individual feeders.

Wool and Mohair

Shorn wool production in 1964 totaled 221.9 million pounds, down 7 percent from 1963, while pulled wool production of 25.1 million pounds was 13 percent below a year earlier. This was the fourth consecutive year of reduced production. Production is expected to decline further in 1965 because of the decreasing inventories of sheep and lambs.

The 1964 average price received by growers for shorn wool was 53.2 cents per pound, up 4.7 cents from 1963. As a result, total value of shorn wool produced was $117.9 million, up 2 percent from 1963.

Mohair production in the 7 major producing States totaled 29.8 million pounds in 1964, up 3 percent from 1963. Value totaled $28.1 million, up 10 percent from 1963 because of higher prices as well as larger production. Prices received by farmers for mohair during the marketing year averaged 94.3 cents per pound, up 6.2 cents per pound from 1963 and the highest average price since 1959.

Table 9 .--Production, prices and income from wool, United States, 1955-64

Year	Shorn wool					Pulled wool production
	Number sheep shorn 1/	Weight per fleece	Production	Price per pound 2/	Value	
	1,000 head	Pounds	1,000 pounds	Cents	1,000 dollars	1,000 pounds
1955	28,149	8.57	241,284	42.8	103,040	41,600
1956	28,469	8.51	242,177	44.3	107,233	40,500
1957	28,415	8.41	239,101	53.7	127,764	33,600
1958	29,403	8.29	243,713	36.4	88,632	30,400
1959	30,763	8.45	259,939	43.3	112,328	34,500
1960	31,064	8.55	265,480	42.0	111,496	33,600
1961	30,719	8.50	261,249	42.9	112,330	34,500
1962	29,525	8.44	249,065	47.7	118,709	29,900
1963	27,875	8.54	238,185	48.5	115,228	28,800
1964 3/	26,411	8.40	221,897	53.2	117,941	25,100

1/ Includes shearing at commercial feeding yards.

2/ For the years 1955 through 1962, the marketing year was April through March. For 1963, the marketing year was April through December. For 1964, the marketing year was January through December.

3/ Preliminary.

Table 10.--Mohair. Production and value for 7 leading States, 1955-64 1/

Year	Number goats clipped 2/	Average clip per goat	Production of mohair	Price per pound 3/	Value
	1,000 head	Pounds	1,000 pounds	Cents	1,000 dollars
1955	2,984	5.7	16,926	82.2	13,913
1956	3,151	5.8	18,201	84.4	15,359
1957	3,231	5.9	19,053	83.7	15,953
1958	3,417	6.1	20,825	72.2	15,026
1959	3,755	6.4	24,151	96.4	23,301
1960	3,889	6.3	24,464	89.7	21,934
1961	4,022	6.6	26,415	85.6	22,618
1962	4,241	6.4	27,226	71.4	19,435
1963	4,372	6.6	29,030	88.1	25,577
1964 4/	4,580	6.5	29,791	94.3	28,092

1/ States are Missouri, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Oregon and California. 2/ In States where goats are clipped twice a year the number clipped is the sum of goats and kids clipped in the spring and kids clipped in the fall. 3/ For the years 1955 through 1962, the marketing year was April through March. For 1963, the marketing year was April through December. For 1964, the marketing year was January through December. 4/ Preliminary.

USDA REVISES BEEF QUALITY GRADES, ESTABLISHES OPTIONAL BEEF CUTABILITY GRADES

The USDA has modernized the voluntary Federal meat grading service by revising the quality grade standards for beef, and establishing separate and optional beef cutability grades. The revised standards will go into effect June 1, 1965.

The new standards are expected to increase the uniformity of eating quality within the 4 revised quality grades; the new cutability standards make the grading service more useful in reflecting consumer preferences for beef.

One of the basic premises involved in grading beef for quality is that advancing maturity reduces palatability. On the other hand, an increase in marbling enhances eating quality. Therefore, grade standards traditionally have required that beef from older animals have a greater degree of marbling. However, recent research indicates that for beef from animals up to about 30 months of age, the standards have required an increase in marbling greater than needed to compensate for differences in maturity. Much of the research is summarized in a special study of beef grade standards by Dr. E. J. Briskey and Dr. R. W. Bray.

The principal change in the revised standards is a reduction in the rate of increase in marbling in relation to increases in maturity for the USDA Prime, Choice, Good, and Standard grades.

Other changes in the standards eliminate consideration of 2 degrees of marbling in excess of that classified as "abundant," and require that all carcasses offered for grading be ribbed.

The USDA also has established separate and optional yield grade standards to encourage the production of high-quality beef with less excess fat. The yield grades reflect the proportion of closely trimmed retail cuts of beef a particular beef carcass will produce. Variations in carcass cutability result primarily from differences in muscularity and fatness of the carcass.

Traditional grade standards for beef have not considered the amount of excess fat which had to be trimmed in making retail cuts. This has limited the usefulness of the grades in reflecting differences in the value of carcasses of the same grade--but with varying proportions of salable meat. Carcasses of the same grade and weight have usually been traded at nearly uniform prices, despite wide variations in the yield of retail cuts.

The yield standards establish 5 grades to identify differences in the percentage of trimmed retail beef cuts which can be produced from different kinds of carcasses. The grade designations range from 1 to 5. The number 1 identifies carcasses of the highest yield of cuts, and the number 5 identifies those of lowest yield.

The yield grades are based on fat thickness over the carcass ribeye muscle, the size of the ribeye, the quantity of internal carcass fat, and the carcass weight.

As price differentials develop among carcasses and cattle of varying cutability and quality, producers of meat-type cattle--those that combine a high quality of lean with high cutability--should receive the necessary financial incentive to increase production of such animals. Marketing costs would be lowered as the production, shipping, and trimming of waste fat are reduced.

Copies of the standards may be obtained from the Livestock Division, Consumer and Marketing Service, USDA, Washington, D. C. 20250.

* * * * *

Rank of States in Meat Animal Production

Table 11 ranks the States according to liveweight production of cattle, sheep, and hogs in 1964. This refers to the total number of pounds produced on farms during the year and includes the weight added to animals on hand, purchased, or born during the year.

Production of cattle and calves in 1964 was a record 33.9 billion pounds liveweight, more than 4 percent above the 32.4 billion pounds produced in 1963. Texas remained the leading producer of cattle and calves. Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, and California followed in that order, unchanged from 1963.

Liveweight production of sheep and lambs in 1964 totaled 1.3 billion pounds or 7 percent below the 1.5 billion pounds produced in 1963. Colorado, and Iowa each moved up one position while Wyoming and Idaho dropped one position. Texas and California, the leading producing States, remained unchanged.

Production of hogs in 1964 was 20.3 billion pounds, down 4 percent from 1963. No changes were noted in the relative positions of the leading States as Iowa continued its wide margin in hog production.

Edible Offal

Production of edible offal in 1964 totaled 2.2 billion pounds, up 7 percent from 1963 (table 12). Although exports increased to 229 million pounds, up 45 percent from year-earlier levels, per capita disappearance totaled 10.6 pounds. Offal is not included in the standard tables for red meats, which refer only to skeletal or carcass meats.

Canned Meat

Table 13 presents the supply and distribution of canned meat products. Production is not strictly comparable to edible offal or meats, as it is the product weight of meat items canned only under Federal inspection.

Table 11.--Rank of States in live weight of farm production of meat animals, 1964 1/

Rank	Cattle and calves		Sheep and lambs		Hogs	
	State	Production	State	Production	State	Production
		Mil. lb.		Mil. lb.		Mil. lb.
1	Texas	3,110	Texas	144	Iowa	4,714
2	Iowa	2,934	California	99	Illinois	2,940
3	Nebraska	2,323	Colorado	91	Indiana	1,803
4	Kansas	2,189	South Dakota	88	Missouri	1,497
5	California	1,666	Wyoming	88	Minnesota	1,371
6	Minnesota	1,565	Iowa	81	Nebraska	1,078
7	South Dakota	1,530	Idaho	80	Ohio	901
8	Missouri	1,481	Montana	65	South Dakota	745
9	Illinois	1,438	Utah	60	Wisconsin	694
10	Oklahoma	1,305	Minnesota	57	Kansas	521
11	Colorado	1,074	Ohio	42	Kentucky	443
12	Wisconsin	1,041	Kansas	39	North Carolina	433
13	Montana	915	Illinois	39	Georgia	376
14	North Dakota	771	Oregon	38	Tennessee	367
15	Kentucky	683	Nebraska	36	Texas	260
16	Indiana	677	North Dakota	34	Michigan	258
17	Ohio	627	New Mexico	32	Alabama	245
18	Tennessee	570	Indiana	30	Virginia	192
19	Mississippi	547	Missouri	30	North Dakota	142
20	Idaho	524	Arizona	21	Pennsylvania	136
21	Alabama	487	Michigan	20	Oklahoma	128
22	Michigan	471	Washington	19	Mississippi	125
23	Oregon	470	Virginia	15	South Carolina	116
24	Louisiana	457	Kentucky	14	California	84
25	Wyoming	414	West Virginia	13	Arkansas	83
26	Washington	408	Nevada	13	Florida	82
27	Florida	399	Wisconsin	12	Colorado	73
28	New Mexico	398	Pennsylvania	10	Montana	59
29	Pennsylvania	394	Oklahoma	10	Maryland	53
30	Arkansas	393	New York	7	Oregon	50
31	New York	380	Tennessee	6	Idaho	47
32	Georgia	370	Maryland	2	Washington	42
33	Virginia	363	Maine	2	Louisiana	36
34	Arizona	330	North Carolina	2	New Jersey	29
35	Utah	230	Arkansas	1	West Virginia	27
36	North Carolina	209	Louisiana	1	New York	26
37	Nevada	148	Mississippi	1	Massachusetts	25
38	South Carolina	132	New Jersey	1	Utah	18
39	West Virginia	125	Massachusetts	2/	New Mexico	15
40	Maryland	112	Alabama	2/	Wyoming	13
41	Vermont	67	Vermont	2/	Hawaii	12
42	Hawaii	52	Delaware	2/	Delaware	11
43	New Jersey	38	New Hampshire	2/	Arizona	9
44	Maine	36	Connecticut	2/	Maine	6
45	Connecticut	25	Georgia	2/	New Hampshire	4
46	Massachusetts	25	Alaska	2/	Vermont	4
47	New Hampshire	19	Florida	2/	Nevada	4
48	Delaware	10	South Carolina	2/	Connecticut	4
49	Rhode Island	4	Rhode Island	2/	Rhode Island	2
50	Alaska	1	Hawaii	---	Alaska	2/
U. S.		33,937		1,349		20,304

1/ Live weight produced during year by livestock on farms in 50 States. Preliminary data.
2/ Less than 500,000 pounds.

Table 12.--Edible offals: Supply and distribution, 1951 to date

Year	Supply				Distribution				
							Domestic disappearance		
	Total production 1/	Beginning commercial stocks	Imports	Total	Ending commercial stocks	Commercial exports 2/	Military	Civilian	Per capita 3/
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
1951	1,501	59	4	1,564	64	6	4/	1,494	9.9
1952	1,577	64	1	1,642	69	4	4/	1,569	10.2
1953	1,704	69	1	1,774	59	29	4/	1,686	10.8
1954	1,743	59	1	1,803	65	46	4/	1,692	10.6
1955	1,853	65	4/	1,918	70	70	4/	1,778	11.0
1956	1,932	70	4/	2,002	59	99	4/	1,844	11.2
1957	1,849	59	4/	1,908	5/	91	4/	1,817	10.8
1958	1,756	---	2	1,758	---	69	4/	1,689	9.8
1959	1,859	---	2	1,861	---	91	4/	1,770	10.1
1960	1,922	---	2	1,924	---	118	4/	1,806	10.2
1961	1,944	---	2	1,946	---	123	4/	1,823	10.1
1962	1,968	---	3	1,971	---	124	4/	1,847	10.1
1963	2,072	---	3	2,075	---	158	4/	1,917	10.3
1964	2,218	---	1	2,219	---	229	4/	1,990	10.6

1/ Production of offals based on percentage of carcass-weight meat production, including farm: beef 6.7, veal 10.7, lamb and mutton 5.1, pork excluding lard 6.7 percent. 2/ 1951-57 includes small quantities of sausage ingredients reported in Bureau of Census classification "other meats except canned (including edible animals organs)." 3/ Civilian per capita. 4/ Less than 500,000 pounds. 5/ Not reported. Assumed no change in stocks during the year.

Table 13.--Canned meat: Supply and distribution, 1951 to date

Year	Federally inspected production 1/	Imports		Beginning stocks 4/	Commercial exports and shipments 5/	Ending stocks 4/	Domestic disappearance		
		Canned beef 2/	Canned pork 3/				Military 6/	Civilian 7/ 10/	Per capita 8/ 10/
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
1951	1,441	154	31	27	21	35	246	1,351	8.9
1952	1,351	120	54	35	19	37	58	1,446	9.4
1953	1,437	100	97	37	9/ 29	34	50	1,558	10.0
1954	1,441	85	113	34	9/ 32	54	34	1,553	9.8
1955	1,508	87	107	54	22	37	38	1,659	10.2
1956	1,716	73	97	37	28	51	18	1,826	11.0
1957	1,659	95	108	51	43	57	23	1,790	10.6
1958	1,651	113	123	57	24	57	21	1,842	10.7
1959	1,687	95	120	57	26	53	12	1,868	10.7
1960	1,754	77	127	53	23	57	11	1,920	10.8
1961	1,896	95	125	57	21	56	21	2,075	11.5
1962	1,980	84	158	56	17	59	27	2,175	11.9
1963	2,058	112	151	59	18	70	58	2,234	12.0
1964	2,217	79	146	70	20	76	60	2,356	12.5

1/ Beef, pork, sausage, all other, excluding soup. Data from Meat Inspection Division, ARS. 2/ Data from Department of Commerce. 3/ Federally inspected for entry. Data from Meat Inspection Division, ARS. 4/ Refrigerated stocks only. 5/ Includes shipments to Territories. Data from Department of Commerce. 6/ From Statistical Yearbook of the Quartermaster Corps and other military records. 7/ Calculated from federally inspected supplies and distribution as shown. Federally inspected production is the largest part of total U. S. production of canned meats. 8/ Civilian per capita. 9/ Includes small quantities of canned beef and gravy procured by USDA and shipped abroad by CARE. 10/ Includes canned meat bought by the Department of Agriculture for school lunches and eligible institutions.

FOREIGN TRADE IN LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS

Exports

U. S. exports of livestock, meat, and meat products in 1964 rose nearly one-third from 1963 and totaled $478 million. Exports of animal fats, hides and skins, and variety meats set records, while lard exports were largest since 1957.

The record variety meat exports in 1964 were nearly half again as large as in 1963. There has been a long upward trend in U. S. exports of variety meat to Europe. Unusually high prices of red meat in Europe last year made an especially favorable market for these meats.

Exports of red meat last year rose to 0.2 billion pounds, up 17 percent from the year before. Exports of beef and veal, and lamb and mutton were substantially above year-earlier levels, but pork exports were down slightly (table 15).

Imports

Imports of red meat in 1964 totaled 1.5 billion pounds, 26 percent less than a year earlier, for the first decline since 1960. Beef and veal imports were down 29 percent, imports of lamb and mutton were down 45 percent, but pork imports increased 2 percent (table 16).

Imports of cattle, excluding breeding animals and cows for dairy purposes, totaled 515,000 head in 1964, down 307,000 from 1963 and 702,000 from 1962. The large decline in imports of feeder and slaughter cattle last year resulted from the relatively low prices in the United States.

Meat Imports Down Again This Year

In August 1964, the Congress passed and the President signed into law a bill to limit imports of fresh, chilled, or frozen cattle meat and fresh, chilled, or frozen meat of goats and sheep, other than lamb for any year beginning with 1965 for which the Secretary of Agriculture estimates that imports of these items will equal or exceed 110 percent of 725,400,000 pounds (approximately the 1959-63 average annual imports of such items) adjusted by the change in domestic production since 1959-63. Under the formula specified by law (Public Law 88-482), quotas for 1965, if required, would be 848.7 million pounds (product weight). However, the legislation provides that estimated imports for the year must equal or exceed 110 percent of this figure--which would be 933.6 million pounds for 1965--before quotas are required.

Imports for 1965 are expected to be considerably below the level that would require quotas. The current estimate of 1965 imports of these meats is 714 million pounds.

Table 14.--Meat subject to U. S. import quota restriction: Product weight of imports by months, average 1959-63, 1964 and 1965

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.
1959-63 Average	47,342	49,596	57,539	54,254	48,514	58,564	67,110	84,131	76,055	61,599	56,106	61,396	722,206
1964	87,232	44,873	68,877	61,363	51,113	98,152	43,726	79,453	49,651	46,384	55,726	53,363	739,913
1965	28,181	34,499											

Table 14 shows average imports by months of the meats subject to quota, for the 1959-63 base period, for 1964, and the latest available figures for 1965. Imports in 1964--739.9 million pounds--were about 21 percent below the level that would require quotas for 1965. Imports in January-February 1965 were less than half of those in the same months last year. However, imports were curtailed in these months by the dock strike. Imports are likely to increase in the next few months and to more nearly approach year-earlier levels.

Table 17 shows total meat imports--on a carcass weight equivalent basis--for January and February 1964 and 1965. For these months, meat imports were down 49 percent from a year earlier. The declines were 51 percent for beef and veal, 83 percent for lamb, 84 percent for mutton and goat, and 14 percent for pork.

Table 15.--Meat exports: United States exports and shipments by countries, 1960 to date

Product and year	Exports, by destination, product weight											Shipments to Territories 1/	Total exports and shipments	
	Canada	Mexico	France	Bahamas	West Germany	Jamaica	Japan	Netherlands	Venezuela	All other	Total		Product weight	Carcass weight equivalent
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
Beef and veal:														
1960	19.5	0.2	2/	1.8	---	1.3	2/	0.2	0.8	5.6	29.4	12.3	41.7	56
1961	18.9	.2	2/	1.8	2/	1.6	2/	.1	.1	7.2	29.9	13.3	43.2	58
1962	16.9	.1	0.1	1.9	2/	1.2	2/	.1	2/	6.8	27.1	13.8	40.9	53
1963	14.9	.2	.3	2.2	2/	1.4	0.1	.2	2/	8.3	27.6	14.2	41.5	54
1964 4/	17.2	.3	2.1	3.0	0.2	1.9	.1	.5	2/	31.9	57.2	22.6	79.8	96
Lamb and mutton:														
1960	.7	2/	2/	0.2	---	2/	2/	---	2/	0.6	1.5	---	1.5	2
1961	.5	2/	2/	.2	2/	2/	2/	.4	2/	.5	1.6	---	1.6	2
1962	.5	2/	2/	.2	---	2/	---	---	2/	1.3	2.0	---	2.0	3
1963	.4	2/	2/	.3	---	2/	2/	2/	2/	.3	1.0	---	1.0	1
1964 4/	.4	2/	2/	.4	2/	2/	---	0	2/	.5	1.3	---	1.3	2
Pork:														
1960	16.3	5.5	.1	2.0	1.5	2.7	3.5	.5	5.1	32.2	69.4	53.3	122.7	138
1961	36.2	6.7	2/	1.8	2.3	2.9	.8	.7	6.4	10.5	68.3	56.9	125.2	139
1962	33.8	6.7	.1	1.8	1.5	3.5	2/	.2	5.1	11.0	63.7	57.5	121.2	132
1963	84.5	6.5	2.4	2.2	1.3	4.4	15.7	3.4	4.8	12.9	138.1	58.5	196.6	208
1964 4/	51.4	7.7	11.9	3.0	2.2	4.6	8.3	8.6	9.1	26.2	133.0	69.2	202.2	217
Total: 3/														
1960	37.2	5.9	.1	4.3	1.7	4.1	3.5	.7	8.0	42.1	107.6	87.4	195.0	196
1961	56.2	7.1	.2	4.1	2.5	4.6	.8	.8	7.0	22.3	105.6	95.0	200.6	199
1962	51.7	7.0	.2	4.0	1.5	4.9	.1	.4	5.3	22.7	97.8	98.2	196.0	188
1963	100.4	6.9	2.8	5.1	1.3	5.8	15.8	3.6	4.9	24.5	171.1	101.9	273.1	263
1964 4/	69.8	8.2	14.1	6.8	4.6	6.6	8.6	9.2	9.3	61.9	199.1	131.6	330.7	315

1/ Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands and Guam.
2/ Less than 50,000 pounds.
3/ Including sausage, bologna and frankfurters canned and not canned, sausage ingredients, meat and meat products n.e.c., and canned baby food.
4/ Data are preliminary.
Source: Compiled from official records of the Bureau of Census.

Table 15.-- Meat imports: United States, by countries, 1958 to date

Product and year	Imports, by country of origin, product weight												Total imports	
	Canada	Mexico	Argentina	Brazil	Denmark	West Germany	Poland	Netherlands	Ireland	Australia	New Zealand	All other	Product weight	Carcass weight equivalent
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
Beef and veal: 1/														
1958	53.6	75.0	216.7	13.6	2.5	0.3	---	0.3	23.8	17.7	183.7	32.0	619.2	909
1959	22.6	48.9	128.6	36.0	3.4	.3	---	.3	42.0	224.0	161.6	54.6	722.3	1,063
1960	18.9	39.1	52.7	9.0	4.5	.3	2/	.1	52.8	144.7	130.7	59.8	512.6	775
1961	32.3	53.4	65.2	16.3	6.5	.3	0.1	.1	64.4	233.9	154.4	62.3	689.2	1,037
1962	19.4	59.3	55.9	17.2	7.7	.4	.4	.1	70.7	441.7	213.6	81.1	967.5	1,440
1963	17.2	73.0	87.4	10.9	6.1	.2	1.1	.1	72.9	517.0	235.7	100.8	1,122.4	1,677
1964 3/	28.8	48.9	54.4	10.4	.1	2/	.1	2/	20.1	377.1	168.1	92.4	800.4	1,194
Lamb and mutton:														
1958	1.2	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	14.6	7.0	1.2	24.0	41
1959	.8	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	40.6	12.8	2.6	56.8	104
1960	.1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	38.5	9.1	2.0	49.7	87
1961	.1	2/	---	---	---	---	---	---	2/	44.6	10.8	.3	55.8	101
1962	.5	---	.1	---	---	---	---	---	.2	65.9	11.1	.4	78.2	143
1963	.7	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2/	65.8	14.8	.5	81.8	145
1964 3/	.7	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	34.4	8.8	.8	44.7	79
Pork:														
1958	61.9	2/	2/	---	38.7	7.0	27.0	44.7	.1	---	.1	3.3	182.8	193
1959	59.1	2/	2/	---	37.3	4.7	26.9	43.4	.2	---	.2	3.1	174.9	186
1960	47.3	2/	2/	---	40.7	2.7	35.1	42.0	.2	---	.1	3.2	171.3	186
1961	44.7	.1	---	---	46.2	1.7	34.7	42.0	.2	---	2/	4.1	173.7	187
1962	46.8	2/	---	---	63.8	1.3	39.8	43.4	2.0	2/	.1	6.6	203.8	216
1963	45.9	2/	---	---	71.0	.9	40.0	42.9	1.3	2/	.1	8.4	210.5	225
1964 3/	50.6	---	2/	---	66.4	.7	43.9	38.2	.2	2/	2/	10.6	210.6	231
Total:														
1958	116.7	75.0	216.7	13.6	41.2	7.3	27.0	45.0	23.9	32.3	190.8	36.5	826.0	1,143
1959	82.5	48.9	128.6	36.0	40.7	5.0	26.9	43.7	42.2	264.6	174.6	60.3	954.0	1,353
1960	66.3	39.1	52.7	9.0	45.2	3.0	35.1	42.1	53.0	183.2	139.9	65.0	733.6	1,048
1961	77.1	53.5	65.2	16.3	52.7	2.0	34.8	42.1	64.6	278.5	165.2	66.7	918.7	1,325
1962	66.7	59.3	56.0	17.2	71.5	1.7	40.2	43.5	72.9	507.6	224.8	88.1	1,249.5	1,799
1963	63.8	73.0	87.4	10.9	77.1	1.1	41.1	43.0	74.2	582.8	250.6	109.7	1,414.7	2,047
1964 3/	80.1	48.9	54.4	10.4	66.5	.7	44.0	38.2	20.3	411.5	176.9	103.8	1,055.7	1,504

1/ Includes quantities of other canned, prepared or preserved meat n.e.s. Assumed to be mostly beef.
2/ Less than 50,000 pounds.
3/ Data are preliminary.

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 17.--U. S. meat imports and exports: January-February 1964-65 and percentage comparisons (carcass weight)

Item	1964			1965			Percent change		
	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.-Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.-Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.-Feb.
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	Percent	Percent	Percent
	Imports								
Beef and veal	132,579	79,066	211,645	45,362	58,828	104,190	-66	-26	-51
Lamb	1,864	1,075	2,939	26	476	502	-99	-56	-83
Mutton and goat	15,380	3,968	19,348	1,903	1,146	3,049	-88	-71	-84
Pork	18,522	17,689	36,211	8,192	22,946	31,138	-56	+30	-14
Total meat	168,345	101,798	270,143	55,483	83,396	138,879	-67	-18	-49
	Exports								
Beef and veal	4,001	2,477	6,478	3,796	6,260	10,056	-5	+253	+55
Lamb and mutton	136	195	331	120	142	262	-12	-27	-21
Pork	23,295	19,019	42,314	2,621	4,422	7,043	-89	-77	-83
Total meat	27,432	21,691	49,123	6,537	10,824	17,361	-76	-50	-65

Table 18.--U. S. imports, exports, and net imports of beef and veal, pork, lamb and mutton, and total meat in relation to domestic production 1958-64 1/

Year	Production	Imports	Exports	Net imports	Percentage of U. S. production		
					Imports	Exports	Net imports
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
				Beef and veal			
1958	14,516	909.0	32.6	876.5	6.3	0.2	6.0
1959	14,588	1,063.2	34.4	1,028.8	7.3	.2	7.1
1960	15,835	775.5	35.8	739.7	4.9	.2	4.7
1961	16,342	1,037.1	36.0	1,001.2	6.3	.2	6.1
1962	16,311	1,440.0	32.1	1,407.9	8.8	.2	8.6
1963 2/	17,352	1,677.5	32.6	1,644.9	9.7	.2	9.5
1964 2/	19,435	1,194.1	64.8	1,129.3	6.1	.3	5.8
				Pork			
1958	10,454	193.1	61.8	131.3	1.8	0.6	1.3
1959	11,993	186.0	79.1	106.9	1.6	.7	0.9
1960	11,605	185.6	75.9	109.7	1.6	.7	0.9
1961	11,411	187.2	72.3	114.9	1.6	.6	1.0
1962	11,841	215.9	66.9	149.0	1.8	.6	1.3
1963 2/	12,439	225.0	141.7	83.3	1.8	1.1	0.7
1964 2/	12,523	230.6	138.3	92.3	1.8	1.1	0.7
				Lamb and mutton			
1958	688	41.2	2.4	38.8	6.0	0.3	5.6
1959	738	104.2	2.2	101.9	14.1	.3	13.8
1960	768	87.0	2.0	85.0	11.3	.3	11.1
1961	832	100.7	2.0	98.8	12.1	.2	11.9
1962	809	143.2	2.6	140.6	17.7	.3	17.4
1963 2/	770	144.7	1.5	143.2	18.8	.3	18.6
1964 2/	715	79.0	1.9	77.1	11.0	.3	10.8
				Total meat			
1958	25,658	1,143.3	96.8	1,046.5	4.5	0.4	4.1
1959	27,319	1,353.3	115.7	1,237.6	5.0	.4	4.5
1960	28,208	1,048.1	113.7	934.4	3.7	.4	3.3
1961	28,585	1,325.1	110.2	1,214.9	4.6	.4	4.2
1962	28,961	1,798.8	101.5	1,697.3	6.2	.6	5.9
1963 2/	30,561	2,047.2	176.0	1,871.2	6.7	.6	6.1
1964 2/	32,673	1,503.7	205.0	1,298.7	4.6	.6	4.0

1/ Carcass weight equivalent.
2/ Preliminary.

Table 19.--U. S. Imports of cattle from specified countries, excluding breeding animals and cows for dairy purposes, 1958-64

Year	700 pounds and over				Under 200 pounds			
	Canada	Mexico	Other	Total	Canada	Mexico	Other	Total
	Head	Head	Head	Head	Head	Head	Head	Head
1958	230,025	80,589	1,110	311,724	13,580	3,231	0	16,811
1959	90,259	45,697	0	135,956	30,738	1,037	0	31,775
1960	60,865	19,631	0	80,496	32,079	1,773	0	33,852
1961	88,660	36,410	0	125,070	28,605	8,655	0	37,260
1962	72,205	36,732	0	108,937	41,315	24,925	0	66,240
1963	51,018	18,123	22	69,163	36,618	27,120	1	63,739
1964 1/	45,880	1,777	0	47,657	50,714	13,162	0	63,876

Year	200 to 699 pounds				Total			
	Canada	Mexico	Other	Total	Canada	Mexico	Other	Total
1958	373,671	403,166	0	776,837	617,276	486,986	1,110	1,105,372
1959	186,630	317,095	0	503,725	307,627	363,829	0	671,456
1960	140,471	369,113	0	509,584	233,415	390,517	0	623,932
1961	337,452	497,999	0	835,451	454,717	543,064	0	997,781
1962	351,336	690,228	0	1,041,564	464,856	751,885	0	1,216,741
1963	148,486	540,099	353	688,938	236,122	585,342	376	821,840
1964 1/	86,713	315,962	700	403,375	183,307	330,901	700	514,908

1/ Preliminary.

Supply and distribution of meat, by months, October 1964 to date

Meat and period	Commercially produced								Total 3/		
	Supply			Distribution							
	Production	Beginning stocks	Imports 1/	Exports and shipments	Ending stocks	Military	Civilian consumption		Production	Civilian consumption	
							Total	Per person 2/		Total	Per person
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
Beef:											
October	1,620	257	78	7	261	42	1,645	8.7	---	---	---
November	1,453	261	86	9	293	40	1,458	7.7	---	---	---
December	1,559	293	87	18	315	32	1,574	8.3	---	---	---
4th quarter	4,632	257	251	34	315	114	4,677	24.7			4/25.2
Year	18,016	281	1,176	91	315	495	18,572	98.6			4/100.4
1965											
January	1,536	315	45		293	37			---	---	---
February	1,365	293	58		255	38			---	---	---
March											
1st quarter											
Veal:											
October	96	10	2	5/	11	2	95	.5	---	---	---
November	82	11	1	1	12	2	79	.4	---	---	---
December	77	12	2	2	13	2	74	.4	---	---	---
4th quarter	255	10	5	3	13	6	248	1.3			4/1.5
Year	921	13	17	5	13	35	898	4.7			4/5.2
1965											
January	79	13	1		13	3			---	---	---
February	69	13	1		13	3			---	---	---
March											
1st quarter											
Lamb and mutton:											
October	65	15	2	5/	14	1	67	.4	---	---	---
November	55	14	4	5/	13	1	59	.3	---	---	---
December	59	13	4	1	13	4/	62	.3	---	---	---
4th quarter	179	15	10	1	13	2	188	1.0			4/1.0
Year	704	19	79	2	13	4	783	4.2			4/4.2
1965											
January	59	13	2		12	4/			---	---	---
February	47	12	2		11	4/			---	---	---
March											
1st quarter											
Pork:											
October	1,138	184	20	12	223	21	1,086	5.7	---	---	---
November	1,107	223	18	16	275	17	1,040	5.5	---	---	---
December	1,118	275	23	14	284	14	1,104	5.8	---	---	---
4th quarter	3,363	184	61	42	284	52	3,230	17.0			4/17.9
Year	12,006	277	231	217	284	229	11,784	62.5			4/65.4
1965											
January	1,016	284	8		308	17			---	---	---
February	871	308	22		319	18			---	---	---
March											
1st quarter											
All meat:											
October	2,919	466	102	19	509	66	2,893	15.3	---	---	---
November	2,697	509	109	26	593	60	2,636	13.9	---	---	---
December	2,813	593	116	35	625	48	2,814	14.8	---	---	---
4th quarter	8,429	466	327	80	625	174	8,343	44.0			4/45.6
Year	31,647	590	1,503	315	625	763	32,037	170.0			4/175.2
1965											
January	2,690	625	56		626	57			---	---	---
February	2,352	626	83		598	59			---	---	---
March											
1st quarter											

1/ Data are preliminary.
2/ Derived from estimates by months of population eating out of civilian food supplies.
3/ Includes production and consumption from farm slaughter.
4/ Estimated.
5/ Less than 500,000 pounds.

Selected price statistics for meat animals and meat

Item	Unit	1964		1965		
		March	April	February	March	April
CATTLE AND CALVES:						
Beef steers, slaughter	Dollars per					
Chicago, Prime	100 pounds	22.37	22.16	25.38	26.15	
Choice	do.	21.56	21.28	24.02	24.31	
Good	do.	20.80	20.53	22.37	22.51	
Standard	do.	18.56	18.46	18.31	18.99	
Utility	do.	16.66	16.51	16.24	16.73	
All grades	do.	21.38	21.03	23.50	23.80	
Omaha, all grades	do.	20.42	19.90	21.82	22.31	
Sioux City, all grades	do.	20.48	19.88	22.01	22.16	
Cows, Chicago						
Commercial	do.	14.52	14.84	13.31	13.83	
Utility	do.	14.58	14.84	13.37	13.89	
Cutter	do.	13.75	14.07	12.66	13.22	
Canner	do.	12.45	12.71	11.79	12.30	
Vealers, Choice, S. St. Paul	do.	29.98	26.98	30.22	18.75	
Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City 1/	do.	21.42	20.91	19.85	21.31	
Price received by farmers						
Beef cattle	do.	18.60	18.10	18.20	18.60	
Cows	do.	13.60	13.40	12.70	13.00	
Steers and heifers	do.	20.40	19.70	20.30	20.60	
Calves	do.	23.30	22.30	20.60	20.50	
HOGS:						
Barrows and gilts, U. S. No. 1, 2 & 3, Chicago						
200-220 pounds	do.	15.08	14.90	17.62	17.62	
220-240 pounds	do.	14.90	14.63	17.45	17.49	
240-270 pounds	do.	14.19	14.04	17.02	17.09	
All weights	do.	14.56	14.33	17.21	17.22	
Barrows and gilts, 8 markets 2/	do.	14.48	14.16	17.01	16.98	
Sows, Chicago	do.	12.55	12.35	14.59	15.00	
Price received by farmers	do.	14.10	14.00	16.40	16.30	
Hog-corn price ratio 3/						
Chicago, barrows and gilts		12.0	11.6	13.4	13.1	
Price received by farmers, all hogs		12.7	12.3	14.0	13.8	
SHEEP AND LAMBS:	Dollars per					
Sheep	100 pounds					
Slaughter ewes, Good, Chicago	do.	8.30	7.90	6.50	7.09	
Price received by farmers	do.	6.40	6.13	6.20	6.29	
Lamb						
Slaughter, Choice, Chicago	do.	23.09	23.22	24.56	25.60	
Feeder, Choice, S. St. Paul	do.	21.04	20.48	23.18	23.08	
Price received by farmers	do.	19.80	20.10	21.60	22.30	
All meat animals:						
Index number price received by farmers (1910-14=100)		273	268	280	283	
MEAT:						
Wholesale, Chicago	Dollars per					
Steer beef carcass, Choice, 500-600 pounds	100 pounds	38.25	37.77	39.46	40.20	
Lamb carcass, Choice, 45-55 pounds	do.	44.69	44.52	49.56	51.38	
Composite hog products						
Including lard						
71.90 pounds fresh	Dollars	15.99	15.75	18.07	18.27	
Average per 100 pounds	do.	22.24	21.90	25.13	25.41	
71.01 pounds fresh and cured	do.	20.59	20.31	21.97	22.42	
Average per 100 pounds	do.	29.00	28.60	30.94	31.57	
Excluding lard						
55.99 pounds fresh and cured	do.	18.42	18.14	19.54	19.95	
Average per 100 pounds	do.	32.90	32.40	34.90	35.63	
Retail, United States average	Cents					
Beef, Choice grade	per pound	76.6	76.6	78.4	78.6	
Pork, retail cuts and sausage	do.	55.3	54.9	56.9	57.2	
Lamb, Choice grade	do.	72.4	71.1	74.6	76.2	
Index number meat prices (BLS)						
Wholesale (1957-59=100)		86.6	86.6	89.9	90.1	
Retail (1957-59=100)		97.9	97.7	100.0	100.3	

1/ Average all weights and grades

2/ Chicago, St. Louis N. S. Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, S. St. Paul, and Indianapolis.

3/ Number bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs.

Selected marketing, slaughter and stocks statistics for meat animals and meat

Item	Unit	1964		1965		
		March	April	February	March	April
Meat animal marketings						
Index number (1957-59=100)		116	123	104	123	
Stocker and feeder shipments to						
8 Corn Belt States	1,000					
Cattle and calves	head	384	355	279	332	
Sheep and lambs	do.	133	171	128	133	
Slaughter under Federal inspection						
Number slaughtered						
Cattle	do.	1,877	2,045	1,919	2,226	
Steers	do.	1,128	1,241	1,080	1,247	
Heifers	do.	409	428	401	496	
Cows	do.	323	354	415	454	
Bulls and stags	do.	17	22	23	29	
Calves	do.	400	379	384	473	
Sheep and lambs	do.	1,035	1,052	850	986	
Hogs	do.	6,420	6,481	5,301	6,534	
Percentage sows	Percent	5	6	5	5	
Average live weight per head						
Cattle	Pounds	1,076	1,066	1,040	1,030	
Calves	do.	186	192	195	184	
Sheep and lambs	do.	103	103	104	104	
Hogs	do.	238	242	235	234	
Average production						
Beef, per head	do.	629	625	599	594	
Veal, per head	do.	106	109	109	104	
Lamb and mutton, per head	do.	51	51	51	51	
Pork, per head	do.	143	145	142	144	
Pork, per 100 pounds live weight	do.	60	60	60	61	
Lard, per head	do.	30	30	28	27	
Lard, per 100 pounds live weight	do.	12	12	12	12	
Total production	Million					
Beef	pounds	1,178	1,274	1,146	1,317	
Veal	do.	42	41	42	49	
Lamb and mutton	do.	52	54	43	50	
Pork	do.	915	941	751	938	
Lard	do.	189	193	149	175	
Commercial slaughter 1/						
Number slaughtered	1,000					
Cattle	head	2,316	2,505	2,341	2,714	
Calves	do.	586	558	567	685	
Sheep and lambs	do.	1,175	1,186	936	1,091	
Hogs	do.	7,400	7,432	6,161	7,526	
Total production	Million					
Beef	pounds	1,412	1,514	1,365	1,568	
Veal	do.	68	67	69	80	
Lamb and mutton	do.	59	60	47	55	
Pork	do.	1,051	1,072	871	1,075	
Lard	do.	210	213	167	196	
Cold storage stocks first of month						
Beef	do.	268	271	293	255	
Veal	do.	14	13	13	13	
Lamb and mutton	do.	18	18	12	11	
Pork	do.	382	411	308	319	
Total meat and meat products 2/	do.	767	810	703	681	

1/ Federally inspected, and other commercial.

2/ Includes stocks of canned meats in cooler in addition to the four meats listed.

LIST OF TABLES

Table	Title	Page
1	Steer and heifer beef production under Federal inspection, United States, by months 1963-65	6
2	Number of cattle and calves on feed April 1, by regions, and percent change from previous year, 1959 to date	7
3	Steer prices at Chicago by weight group and differences between grades, by months, 1964-65	9
4	Number of cattle and calves slaughtered under Federal inspection, by class, United States, by months, 1964 to date	10
5	Selected prices per 100 pounds of cattle, by months, 1964-65	11
6	Hog prices, corn prices, and hog-corn price ratio, by months, 1963 to date	16
7	Selected prices per 100 pounds of livestock, by months, 1964-65	19
8	Average prices and value of important items affecting returns from lamb feeding, 1959-64	21
9	Production, prices, and income from wool, United States, 1955-64	23
10	Mohair: Production and value for 7 leading States, 1955-64	23
11	Rank of States in live weight of farm production of meat animals, 1964	26
12	Edible offals: Supply and distribution, 1951 to date	27
13	Canned meat: Supply and distribution, 1951 to date	27
14	Meat subject to U. S. import quota restriction: Product weight of imports by months, average 1959-63, 1964, and 1965	29
15	Meat exports: United States exports and shipments by countries, 1960 to date	30
16	Meat imports: United States, by countries, 1958 to date ..	31

LIST OF TABLES--Continued

Table	Title	Page
17	U. S. meat imports and exports: January-February 1964-65 and percentage comparisons (carcass weight)	32
18	U. S. imports, exports, and net imports of beef and veal, pork, lamb and mutton, and total meat in relation to domestic production, 1958-64	33
19	U. S. imports of cattle from specified countries, excluding breeding animals and cows for dairy purposes, 1958-64	34

Standard Summary Tables

Supply and distribution of meat, October 1964 to date 35

Selected price statistics for meat animals and meat 36

Selected marketing, slaughter, and stock statistics for meat animals and meat 37

The Livestock and Meat Situation is published in January, March, May, July, October, and November.

The next issue is scheduled for release July 30, 1965.

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D. C. 20250.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
U. S. Department of Agriculture

NOTICE

If you no longer need this publication, check here ☐ return this sheet, and your name will be dropped from the mailing list.

If your address should be changed, write the new address on this sheet and return the whole sheet to:

Division of Administrative Services (ML)
Office of Management Services
U. S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D. C. 20250.

LMS-143 - The Livestock and Meat Situation

U. S. DEPT. OF AGR. LIBRARY
BELTSVILLE BRANCH
PLANT INDUSTRY STATION
4-11-56
FNS-3 BELTSVILLE, MD.